Functioning of NGOs

2583. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) functioning all over the Country and the financial allocation by Government for implementation of welfare programmes through NGOs;

(b) whether the target of Government has been achieved;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the financial allocation for those NGOs which are implementing welfare schemes properly; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) In 2002-03 against budgetary allocation of Rs. 220.96 crore and amount of Rs. 221.79 crore has been released to 2720 NGOs. The additional amount has been met by way of reappropriation. In 2003-04 the Ministry has allocated an amount of Rs. 217.14 crore for the implementation of welfare programmes through NGOs.

(b) No target has been fixed.

(c) and (d) The financial assistance is released to the organization on the basis of their budgetary demands, recommendation of the State Government or authorized inspection agencies and as per the norms of the scheme.

National Scholarship Scheme for handicapped students

†2584. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether government have launched any National Scholarship Scheme for handicapped students who intend to pursue higher education;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of handicapped students to whom scholarship under the said scheme is proposed to be given, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Scheme of National Scholarship for Persons with Disabilities has been introduced by the Ministry from the year 2002-2003. Under this scheme financial assistance is provided to disabled for pursuing Post Matric/Secondary level Professional and Technical courses of duration not less than one year. The monthly family income of the beneficiary should not be more than Rs. 400/- per month for day scholar to Rs. 1,000/- per month for Hosteller. The details of the scheme is available in the Ministry's web site *www.socialjustice.nic.in*.

(c) 500 scholarships are proposed to be given each year.

Action on recommendations of Minorities Commission

2585. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reports of the Minorities Commission have been submitted to Government over the last three years;

(b) the details of recommendations which have been accepted, and action taken on the same; and

(c) the reasons for not accepting the other recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir. During the last three years, the National Commission for Minorities has submitted two Reports *viz.* 6th and 7th Annual reports pertaining to 1998-99 and 1999-2000, respectively.